



BHSC NEWS

May, 2008

BHSC Spring Meeting Summary

The spring BHSC meeting at Aberdeen Proving Ground had over 40 participants in person and a number of phone participants. There were a number of excellent presentations, including the genetics overview provided by Dr. Lisa Maier of National Jewish Medical Center. The three roundtables (on beryllium oxide, the NIOSH Alert document, and possible uses of uncensored data) all produced lively discussions. There was also another lively discussion on wall deposits. An open call for papers led to four presentations, two from Brush-Wellman and one each from Caroline Muller (University of Montreal) and Mike Van Dyke (National Jewish). Many thanks to all of our speakers, and to Geoff Braybrooke and the folk at CHPPM for being such great hosts!

Update on BHSC Web Site

You may not be able to notice any difference yet, but work is continuing behind the scenes on the BHSC web site. New pages are being developed for the various BHSC subcommittees, including a new means for reviewing draft white papers. Updating of the BHSC home page should be under way shortly. We will let you know when the “new” web site is ready to go.

Speaking of web sites ... the fall symposium web site should also be “live” in the very near future, and this also will be announced to BHSC members and guests.

Reminder – NIOSH Alert Public Comment Period Ends May 12

If you wish to enter comments on the “NIOSH Alert: Preventing Chronic Beryllium Disease and Beryllium Sensitization”, the deadline is Monday, May 12. The BHSC as a committee does not make comments on these types of documents.

CBD Prevention Subcommittee Has New Name and Focus

At the spring BHSC meeting last month, the CBD Prevention Subcommittee changed its name to the Risk Communication Subcommittee. While CBD prevention remains within the scope of this group, the goal is to re-focus on risk communication needs and revitalize this subcommittee. At the spring meeting, ideas for several working groups such as IH issues and Be affected workers were discussed. The subcommittee has been meeting by phone with the Research Needs Subcommittee, but will begin having its own conference calls in the near future. For more information, contact Steve Jahn, subcommittee chair, at steven.jahn@srs.gov.



New Task Force Formed on Wall Deposits

Based on discussion at the spring BHSC meeting, a new task force has been formed to examine the issues raised in the Wall Deposits white paper and consider whether the BHSC should develop any additional guidance on the topic. The task force will be led by Mike McCawley (mccawley.mike@comcast.net). Anyone interested in this task force should contact McCawley.

Update on BHSC White Papers

The draft white paper on Wall Deposits was sent to BHSC members on April 21 for review. Comments are due by May 12, and should be sent to Melecita Archuleta (melarch@sandia.gov).

The revised Data Reporting Task Force white paper on possible uses of uncensored data, presented at the spring BHSC meeting, will be sent to BHSC members for review shortly after the May 12 closing date for the wall deposits white paper.

Conference Call Schedule, May 1 – June 15 (all times Eastern Daylight Time)

May 1, noon, Be by Fluorescence Working Group (Anoop Agrawal, aagrawal@qwest.net)
May 7, 3 PM, Symposium Subcommittee, Amy Ekechukwu, amy.ekechukwu@srnl.doe.gov
May 8, 3 PM, Research Needs/CBD Prevention Subcommittees, Mike McCawley (mccawley.mike@comcast.net) and Steve Jahn (steven.jahn@srs.gov)
May 13, noon, Sampling and Analysis Subcommittee (Melecita Archuleta, melarch@sandia.gov)
May 14, noon, Data Reporting Task Force, Mike Brisson, mike.brisson@srs.gov
May 14, 3 PM, Technical Practices/Standards/Measures Subcommittee, David Weitzman, david.weitzman@hq.doe.gov
May 15, noon, Accreditation Working Group, Diana Decker, ddecker@lanl.gov
May 20, noon, BeO/Digestion working group, Tom Oatts, oattstj@y12.doe.gov
May 21, noon, BHSC Board (Board members only)
May 27, noon, Sampling working group, Geoff Braybrooke, geoffrey.braybrooke@apg.amedd.army.mil
May 28, noon, Data Reporting Task Force, Mike Brisson, mike.brisson@srs.gov
June 3, 3 PM, Symposium Subcommittee, Amy Ekechukwu, amy.ekechukwu@srnl.doe.gov
June 5, noon, Be by Fluorescence Working Group (Anoop Agrawal, aagrawal@qwest.net)
June 10, noon, Validation Working Group, Amy Ekechukwu, amy.ekechukwu@srnl.doe.gov
June 11, noon, Data Reporting Task Force, Mike Brisson, mike.brisson@srs.gov
June 12, 3 PM, Research Needs/CBD Prevention Subcommittees, Mike McCawley (mccawley.mike@comcast.net) and Steve Jahn (steven.jahn@srs.gov)



Future BHSC Meetings

November 17-20, 2008, Albuquerque, NM

Nov 17 AM: JOWOG

Nov 17 PM: Surface Sampling Tutorial

Nov 18-19: Third International Symposium on Beryllium Particulates and Their Detection

Nov 20: Main BHSC meeting

(Time of Board meeting is TBD)

March 31-April 2, 2009, Savannah River Site, Aiken, SC

Mar 31: Board and JOWOG

Apr 1-2: Main BHSC meeting

Fall 2009: DOE North Las Vegas office complex (dates TBD)

Spring 2010, U. K. Atomic Weapons Establishment Aldermaston, Reading, U.K.